

REMARKS

Claims 36-53 are pending in this application. Claims 49-53 are newly added in accordance with current Office policy, to further and alternatively define Applicants' disclosed invention and to assist the Examiner in expediting compact prosecution of the instant application.

The title of the invention was objected to for failing to be sufficiently descriptive. Accordingly, submitted for the Examiner's consideration is the proposed new title of "PARALLEL DATABASE SYSTEM RETRIEVAL METHOD OF A RELATIONAL DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM USING INITIAL DATA RETRIEVAL QUERY AND SUBSEQUENT SUB-DATA UTILIZATION QUERY PROCESSING FOR MINIMIZING QUERY TIME". Entry of this newly submitted title is respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR §1.84. Formal drawings in compliance with 37 CFR §1.84 will be submitted upon allowance of the instant application but prior to the date for payment of any issue fee.

Claims 36 and 43-44 were rejected under §102(e) as anticipated by Mattos et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,765,147 (Mattos '147). This rejection is respectfully traversed for reasons that Mattos '147 does not qualify as prior art against Applicants' claims 36 and 43-44. This is because the instant application is a Rule 53(b) continuation of Application Serial No. 08/918,106, filed on August 27, 1997, which, in turn, has a foreign priority date of August 28, 1996, that predates the filing date of November 21, 1996, of Mattos et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,765,147. Since a certified copy of the specification was already filed

in parent Application Serial No. 08/918,106, and the Examiner has already acknowledged Applicants' previous claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d), Applicants respectfully request that Mattos '147 be removed as prior art against Applicants' independent claims 36 and 43-44, and that the rejection of independent claims 36, 43 and 44 be withdrawn.

Lastly, claims 47 and 48 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over the proposed combination of Mattos '147 as modified to incorporate selected features from Davis et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,918,229. Again neither Mattos '147 nor Davis '229 qualifies as prior art against Applicants' disclosed invention, since Applicants' foreign priority date of August 28, 1996, predates the filing date of both Mattos '147 and Davis '229. For this reason, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 47 and 48 be withdrawn.

Claims 49-53 are newly added to alternatively define Applicants' disclosed invention over the prior art of record. These claims are believed to be allowable at least for the same reasons discussed against the outstanding rejections. A fee of \$80 is incurred by the addition of one independent claim.


In view of the foregoing amendments, arguments and remarks, all claims are deemed to be allowable and this application is believed to be in condition to be passed to issue. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' attorney at (703) 312-6600.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP (referencing Attorney Docket No. 501.35319CX1), and please credit any excess fees to said deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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